Safeguarding Indian small and medium scale enterprises from Chinese goods

1385. SHRI TARIQ ANWAR: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is fact that Chinese items are adversely affecting our industry specially small enterprises;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps Government is taking to safeguard the Indian small and medium scale enterprises?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JYOTIRADITYA MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) and (b) Imports from China during last 3 years is given in the table below:

Table: Imports from China

Year	Imports (Rs. Crore)
2006-07	79,008
2007-08	109,116
2008-09	147,605

No data is maintained separately for the Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs).

(c) Trade defence measures are available to the domestic industry to counter unfair trade practices followed by exporters of goods from other countries. In case a product is imported into the country at less than its normal value, and it causes injury to the domestic industry, the domestic industry can make an application to Directorate General of Anti-Dumping and Allied duties (DGAD) in the Department of Commerce for imposition of anti-dumping duty. Similarly, an application for imposition of safeguard duty can be made by the domestic industry to the Directorate General of Safeguards under the Ministry of Finance, in case there is serious injury/market disruption, or threat of series injury/threat of market disruption to the domestic industry, as a consequence of increased imports of an article into India. During 2008-09 and 2009-10 (upto November 2009) anti-dumping duty was imposed in 22 cases (final duty in 12 cases and provisional duty in 10 cases) and final Safeguard duty was imposed in 4 cases.

Under Section 3(2) of Foreign Trade (Development and Regulation) Act, 1992, the Central Government has an inherent power to impose restrictions on import of goods. The Customs Tariff Act, 1975 presently includes provisions for providing relief to the domestic producers against injury caused to them by imports, in accordance with the Agreement on Anti-Dumping *(i.e.* the Agreement on the implementation of Article VI of GATT, 1995), the Agreement on Subsidies and Countervailing Measures, and the Agreement on Safeguards. These provisions are aimed at offsetting the adverse effects of 'dumped' imports, 'subsidized' imports or 'increased' imports.